

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Roach W24801

Elizabeth

f42VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/3/12

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[f p. 11]

State of Tennessee Montgomery County

This 21st day of August in the year of our Lord 1832, John Roach a resident of the County of Montgomery aged seventy-two years, who being duly sworn according to law doth upon his oath make the following declaration for the purpose of obtaining a pension under the act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832 – and said Roach declares that he was born in Amelia County in the State of Virginia and that [he] entered the service of the United States as a regular soldier as a substitute for Frederick Ford in a company commanded by Captain Oglesby [perhaps Richard Oglesby] & Wood Jones his Lieutenant, in the 2nd Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Spotswood. That he first joined the service at Williamsburg that they remained there near six months & then marched to Fredericksburg & remained there some short time & was then marched to German town [Germantown] in the State of Pennsylvania & he was in the battle of German Town [Germantown, October 4, 1777] & that he was then in the Regiment of Colonel Spotswood & under General Mead – & we then marched 20 or 30 miles from German town & remained there until Frederick ford returned to the Army & employed another substitute for the last year of his enlistment – I having served out the year for which I had been employed – I then returned home to Virginia & was enrolled in the Militia & served four tours of duty as a Militia man drafted – that his 1st tour of duty was to Norfolk in Captain G. Tally's Company in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Wells and in the Brigade commanded by General Lawson he thinks the tour to Norfolk was three months – it was in the fall season of the year but cannot recollect the year & returned home & was discharged – and in the next spring he was again ordered into service in a company commanded by Captain Wells & in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Richardson & again under the command of General Lawson – He was first went to Richmond & about two hundred of the militia including myself were ordered to Fredericksburg for guns & ammunition & on our return were stopped at Masons ferry on James River about 30 miles below Richmond where we remained until my time of service expired which I believe was for three months. I was again called into service for short time, I think six weeks & were marched into North Carolina in a company commanded by Captain Edward Ward & joined the main Army under the command of General Gates [Horatio Gates] at a place called New Garden & marched from there a short distance & had a battle with the British where we were defeated & which was generally known by the name of Gates defeat [August 15-16, 1780] – he does not recollect the place where the battle was fought – we were then discharged – our term of service having expired – he was severely wounded on the head by a cut with the sword in the battle – he then continued at home until some short time before Cornwallis was taken [October 19, 1781] when it again came to be his term in the when he marched under the

command of Captain Cauley [perhaps William Crawley] & Lieutenant Holmes in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Richardson & in general Lawson's brigade & marched to York and joined the Army some days before the capture of Cornwallis, having been stationed some time at Williamsburg – after the Battle I was discharged I think some ten or fifteen days before my term of service expired – the last tour was for three months – he received discharges but the same have been lost or destroyed – that he knows of but one witness living by whom he can prove his service – a man by the name of Abel Mann¹ who has removed somewhere in the West he has understood to Illinois but where he does not know – that he hereby relinquishes every claim to any other pension or annuity from the General Government and that he is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open Court

S/ John Roach

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Roach". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

[William Shaw, a clergyman, and Robert Biggen gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 5: On March 24, 1835 in Franklin County Illinois, the veteran filed for a transfer of his pension benefit to the Illinois agency. In this document he describes himself as having formerly belonged to the company commanded by captains Wells, Grif Tally, William Crawley in the Regiment commanded by Colonels Wells & Richardson and General Lawson. He gives as his reason for moving to Illinois that all his children have moved to Illinois and he is old and unable to support himself and once to live near his children.]

[f p. 18: On September 7, 1844, Elizabeth Roach, 83 years and 6 months old, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Roach, a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution; that she married him in Amelia County Virginia October 10, 1785; that her husband died September 28, 1839 in Williamson County Illinois. She signed her application with her mark.]

[f p. 8: Copy of a marriage bond dated October 26, 1784 issued to John Roach and Abel Mann conditioned on the marriage of John Roach to Betsy Rees. The bond was issued in Amelia County Virginia.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$35 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 10 1/2 months in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.] in

¹ Sic, [Abel Man S32396](#)